

# McVeytown Journal

Fall 2015  
VOLUME 1 ISSUE 4



2010 view of our town, taken from the Mattawana Hill. Note that it is before the new Kish Bank was built.

## Town Council Members

- Wilda Fisher, Mayor
- Steve Feathers, President
- Roland Fagan, Vice Pres.
- Danny Bollinger
- Rex Goss
- Keith Gruber
- John Stiver
- Mark Zong

## Water & Sewer Authority

- Pete Sunderland, Chair
- Russ Halfpenny
- Steve Coleman
- Galen Yoder
- Barbara Stiver

## Borough Office 899-6323 10 N. Queen St.

Barbara Stiver, Sec./Treas.  
Hours: Mon. Tues. Thurs. 9-2  
[mcveytown@verizon.net](mailto:mcveytown@verizon.net)

## Borough Maintenance and Treatment Plant 899-7436 28 S. Water St.

Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 7-3  
Randy Stoner  
Matt Stringer  
[boroman1@verizon.net](mailto:boroman1@verizon.net)

## Bldg./Assessment Code Officer Matt Stringer 899-7436

## Rothrock Community Library 899-6846

[rothrocklibrary@verizon.net](mailto:rothrocklibrary@verizon.net)

Mailing address:

McVeytown Borough  
PO Box 321  
McVeytown PA 17051

Visit online at:  
[www.mcveytownboro.com](http://www.mcveytownboro.com)

## From the Borough Office Desktop by Barbara Stiver

Well, it seems that fall has arrived. We are having warm days and cool nights.

The Borough will continue to pick up leaves and lawn debris on Wednesdays. Set your barrel out by the curb or call the sewer plant 899-7436 for pick-up. The Borough provides this service to avoid burning. If you must burn, use a burn barrel and *only burn paper* (not garbage, food scraps, plastic, etc.)

Even though grass growth has slowed, grass and weeds still need to be trimmed in line with our weed ordinance. Residents are responsible for grass and weeds whether it is in their lawn, flower beds, sidewalks, back yards or by the highway.

Also, grass should not be mowed into the streets—unless you intend to clean it up.

McVeytown is a nice little town and let's all help keep it that way.

## McVeytown Borough Council

Have you noticed a few changes on the outside of the Borough Building? Well, there will be a few inside too.

The Borough Office and Council meetings must be ADA compliant. Therefore, Council chambers and the office are moving back upstairs into the former Council chambers. Hopefully, this will be done by election day (November 3rd).

The Museum will be moving into the basement in the former Council chambers and office. Memories of this room as a kitchen and/or library are remembered by residents. This way, Museum items won't need to be

rearranged for elections and people can still visit on Country Memories Day and other days the Museum is open.

The Borough lock-up was also spruced up. A big thank you to Kyfus Metals for donating the roof materials to the Borough. Installation of the roof was done by Randy and Matt. Roland Fagan and Keith Gruber did the painting. We still need a new door.

## Please welcome Matt Stringer

Matt Stringer is the new part-time employee, replacing John Mumper. Matt is working towards getting his water & wastewater license (DEP required). Also, he is taking over the Code Enforcement responsibilities of John Hendricks. Matt is our Assessment/Building and Zoning Code Enforcement Officer. So questions should be directed to him at the sewer plant, 899-7436. If he isn't available that day, we will contact him to return the call.

## McVeytown Borough Authority

The Authority has submitted the proposed remediation plan to the Dept. of Environmental Protection for their approval. The camera work revealed some real bad areas and some not so bad areas but a total replacement of the lines does not need to be done. The possible cost could be as much as \$860,000 and we are working with the County and the State to get Community Development Block Grant dollars since we qualify as low to moderate income due to the recent survey. Besides CDBG money, we are looking into any available grants that we

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## Welcome Fall...

*Time to rake a few leaves!*

### Upcoming Events:

**Saturday, October 17:** Auction at Kline's Market, starting at 9 a.m. (See page 4.)

**Friday, October 30:** Trick or Treat night. 6 to 8 p.m. Remember to turn your porch lights on for Halloweeners!

**Saturday October 31:** McVeytown Halloween Parade starts at 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, November 11:** Veterans' Day. Remember to fly your flag!

**Thursday, November 26:** Thanksgiving

**Saturday, November 28:** McVeytown Christmas Bazaar at the Firehouse. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Local crafts and vendors. Christmas items.

**Support Our Fire Company!** Bingo at the Firehouse is held on the second Tuesday and last Friday of each month. Doors open at 4:30; games begin at 6:30. But schedules can change, so check the sign in front of the Firehouse to confirm.

**McVeytown Community Library Hours**  
Tuesday and Thursday, 11a.m. to 8 p.m.  
and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Weekly Church Services

*McVeytown United Methodist Church*  
Pat Bollinger, Pastor 899-7866  
Worship - 9:20 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship - Sat., 6:30 p.m.

*McVeytown Presbyterian Church*  
Scott Andrews, Pastor 899-6861  
Sunday School - 9 a.m.  
Worship - 10 a.m.

**Reminder:** *McVeytown has a 10 p.m curfew for underage children. The first siren at 9:45 is a reminder that kids need to be indoors when the second siren goes off at 10 p.m.*

### The McVeytown Journal

Tell your friends and relatives that the Journal can be read online, or downloaded and printed, at [www.mcveytownboro.com](http://www.mcveytownboro.com).

If you have comments, photos, stories or events listings to share in the newsletter, email [sfsf23@verizon.net](mailto:sfsf23@verizon.net) or mail to Newsletter Editor, PO Box 321, McVeytown PA 17051.

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may qualify for.

We are also pursuing grant money for the new well with the help of Sen. Corman and Rep. Harris. The estimated cost for this project is between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

The Authority has two major projects in the works, so we urge all system users to cooperate and pay their bills on a timely basis.

### Rothrock Playground

We finally got the inside bathroom done in the main building. On the United Way Day of Caring, we had WalMart volunteers painting the ceiling and walls. We still need to finish the second coat of paint on the walls and paint the floors but it is looking good.

The next project is to get a kitchenette installed. This will include a sink, counter tops and cupboards. We won't have a full kitchen with a range and oven due to State requirements and licensing. But, we still feel that reunions and parties can still be held at the building. We will be installing

electricity so crock pots, roasters, etc. can be used to serve meals. Hopefully, this will be done by spring so an "Open House" can be held.

Keith Gruber will be doing the kitchenette project. We will be purchasing cabinets and counter tops if needed and Keith has volunteered the labor. Also, his son, Brian, has agreed to do the electrical.

We are a playground not owned by either Oliver Township or McVeytown Borough, unlike Union Township Playground, Burnham or Derry. Both municipalities help us out financially but any projects we try to do are either funded by donations or grants. We have no direct money coming in and have no employees to assign work to.

### Trick or Treat Night

Trick or Treat is on Friday, Oct. 30, 6 to 8 p.m. Only at homes with porch lights on.

*Barbara is the Borough Secretary. Council meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday, of each month, 6:30 p.m. in the Borough Office 10 N. Queen Street. Open to the public.*

## Library News by Deb Himes

Several Harold Bill Wright books have been donated by a local resident, including his *The Shepherd of the Hills*, published in 1907. It remains the fourth most widely-read book in publication history. During the 20th Century, it was the second most popular book, after *The Holy Bible*.

Other book donations include 51 books of the Hardy Boys series. The collection was donated in memory of Albert Watts, who was McVeytown's postmaster in the 1920s into the 1940s.

Recent monetary donations include one for \$100, and \$70 from The Bratton-McVeytown-Oliver Class of 1955.

The library has 209 card holders. Top readers with 303 books checked out are patrons in Oliver Township, followed by Bratton Township, with 157, and a close third from Granville with 119, and McVeytown with 113. Five hundred titles have circulated for a total of 1,481 times

that books have been borrowed. Three books were checked out nine times, and several books were checked out five and six times.

We are receiving many book donations and hope you continue to donate.

Any books that the library doesn't shelf (already have multiple copies, etc.), we can sell to help defray operating costs. The \$2 per bag book sale is ongoing.

Please take note of the mementos of Rothrock High School in front of the borough building. (See photos.)

Watch for the change in library hours. Days will remain the same. Tuesday hours will change to 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday hours will remain 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We are still seeking library volunteers. Any day, any time! Just drop by and introduce yourself, or call 899-6846.

*Deb Himes is the Volunteer Librarian*



**Take a step back in time at the town's museum** by Sis Norton

In 1987-88 the Country Memories Day Committee thought McVeytown should have a museum. The Borough Council liked the idea, and gave them permission to locate it in the borough building.

Word was put out that the CMD Committee would accept items for the museum and soon people were donating historical items to this new project.

Many items have been shared from McVeytown-Oliver High School. The Trophy Case that held many trophies in the High School was moved to the museum before the high school was torn down, under the leadership of Thelma Yeo and the late Elva French many yearbooks were given by various individuals and from various graduating classes from McVeytown-Oliver High School, Bratton-



McVeytown-Oliver High School and Rothrock High School.

After the 2015 Library transition, the yearbooks that were housed in the Library are now in the museum.

A few items that grace the doors of the museum are the Time Capsule that was buried January 21, 1966 and raised in 2000 at Rothrock High School; a hat worn by Casper Dull (a very prominent name in McVeytown), a large counter from the store of Goppy Sides (now home to Glenn and Helen Berryman), pictures of the McVeytown Lions Club Minstrels, many scrap books, sand mine wheelbarrow, Grade School sign, pictures, a beautiful display case (made by the late Lee Swigart of the Class of 1967 and filled with items donated by his classmates), majorette uniforms, three Waynesburg Guard uniforms, two World War I uniforms and one Korean War uniform.

It has been my pleasure to keep the 400-plus items displayed nicely. In 2010 I did a complete inventory of all the items that are now in the museum and we keep adding items to the list.

I receive calls or someone sees me on the street or wherever, and want to know if I would like a certain item for the



museum, and I never turn them down.

People have really been generous and lots of town people—people who do not live in the area anymore and people in and around Mifflin County have shared their McVeytown memories.

My station, come Country Memories Day, is at the museum and I have been blessed to meet people who I have not seen in 40 to 60 years.

I love being a part of the museum, I, for one, am a keeper and all the items in the museum are special to me.

If all the items could tell a story it would make for a wonderful McVeytown book.

*Sis Norton is the museum curator. If you have an item to donate to the museum, please call her at 899-7290.*



**Remember when...  
Monday was  
'Wash Day'**

the old three-burner kerosene stove on which Mama heated water in an old copper wash boiler.

Daddy aided in keeping the washer working smoothly.

It was fun to help run the clothes through the washer wringers to remove the water before hanging them out to dry on clothes lines. On rainy and snowy days, the clothes were hung on a special wall-to-wall line in the sitting room. Alas, no dryers in

The McVeytown Museum is happy to add the old 1930s Maytag gas-powered washing machine, once owned by my mother, Mrs. Andrew (Hazel) Stewart. It was used, for many years, in the summer kitchen of our home on South Water Street, now owned by my sister, Helen Stewart.

Set beside the washer was



by Joyce Sunderland

those days!

Needless to say, Monday wash day started very early in the morning, and you stayed with the job until it was finished!

Back then, we remember *Fels Naptha Soap Bars*, *Oxydol detergent*, and *Mrs. Stewart's Bluing*—all women took great pride in hanging out the cleanest and whitest laundry in town.

Oh, and then we had to sprinkle the clothes and

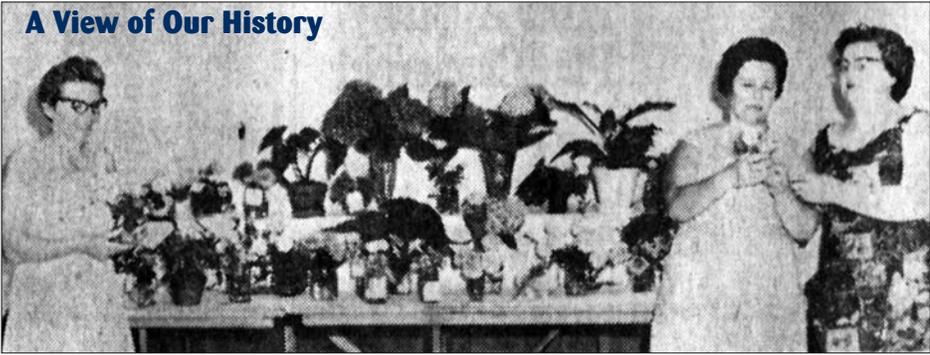


put them in the clothes basket to be ready for Tuesday's ironing day!

The McVeytown Museum welcomes your old, historical items for display.

*Joyce is a lifelong resident of McVeytown. She and her husband Ferm live on South Main Street.*





**A View of Our History**

This 1961 *Sentinel* photo was captioned: "The fourth annual Rothrock Community Fair opens a two-day stand today, featuring a Miss McVey contest, a horse and pony show, horseshoe pitching, music festival, and exhibits of flowers and vegetables from local gardens and fields. Pretty posies are being given enhanced beauty as a tableful of flowers are artfully positioned at Rothrock Community Fair by (from left) Mrs. Edward [Grace] Ardis, Mrs. John [Dorothy] Kauffman and Mrs William [Romaine] Hambright. [Note: The caption was incorrect: The women are, from left: Romaine Hambright, Dorothy (Dot) Kauffman and Mrs. John E. (Mid) Notestine.]

Oh, how times have changed! The first names of the women weren't printed in the original caption, they were added by *The McVeytown Journal's* editor. Today, the husband's name would not appear. We've come a long way, girls!

The first Rothrock Community Fair was held in 1958, the last one in 2006. Now that the main building at the playground is being repaired and updated, maybe it's time to resurrect this popular community event! Do you agree?  
*Photo shared by Sue Feathers.*

**Getting to know your neighbors...**



Veteran's Day is coming up soon. Did you know that McVeytown is honored and proud to have a survivor of the Normandy Invasion on June 6, 1944, as one of its residents?

Our own George Piper was a sailor on the *USS Corry*, the head destroyer which led this massive armada across the English Channel to Normandy. When it was hit by enemy fire, George and his shipmates abandoned ship. They were in the 54-degree water about two hours before being rescued. Twenty-four crewman did not survive.

Many of you will remember when George was the 'town' barber. His small shop was at the corner of John Street and Route 22-522. (about where the sign to Kline's Market is now). The building was torn down in 2002.

George and his wife Betty celebrated their 72nd wedding anniversary in July.

George will be 92 on November 27. Recently, he has had some health problems. If you'd like to cheer him up with a card, you may send it to PO Box 92, McVeytown.

*Photo is of George and Betty Piper*

**Talk around Town...**

*Kline's Market Auction*

Be sure to attend the auction, held at Kline's Market on Saturday, October 17, starting at 9 a.m. The sale of household items will include antiques, used furniture, tools, kitchenware and Christmas decorations. (A listing of auction items is available at the store.)

The new manager of Kline's Market, Serenna Crozier, wants to assure everyone that Kline's Market is not closing.

The store continues to offer lunch meat, cheeses, hamburger, steaks, ham slices, produce, their popular hot and cold hoagies, hot dogs and other made-to-order sandwiches, french fries, etc.

CW Himes Printing is located within Kline's Market. If you need printing services, it is faster and more efficient to get it done locally. CW Himes prints invoices, envelopes, banners, flyers—basically anything on paper.

The store will also have seven consignment spots for rent by the month to individuals who sell antiques, used goods, etc. If you have something to sell, you can reserve a spot by calling Kline's Market at 899-6762.



Cancer Survivor Kathy Stimely supervised the placing of the pink ribbons in town. The ribbons represent the 220,000+ women diagnosed yearly with breast cancer, and are there to remind us that we must continue the fight for a cure.



**kindest sympathies** to the families of the following McVeytown-area residents who passed away recently:

- Bruce Harshbarger
- Patricia G. (Knepp) Harshbarger
- Raymond Harsbarger
- Jean (Forgy) Mierley

